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REMARKS

Allowance of this application is respectfully solicited.

By way of the amendment instructions above, the subject matter of claims 2 and 13 has been incorporated into independent claims 1 and 13, respectively. Claims 2 and 13 have therefore been cancelled as redundant. In view of the Examiner's acknowledgement of allowability of claims 2 and 13, the amended versions of claims 1 and 13 should now be allowable.

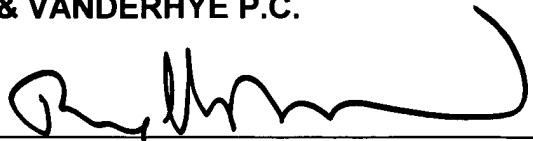
Many of the originally submitted dependent claims have been revised for purpose of clarity and to conform the same to the subject matter of their respective independent claims. In addition, claim 15 has been amended so as to address the Examiner's objection.

The rejections advanced under 35 USC §103(a) and on the basis of "double patenting" have been mooted. Accordingly early receipt of the Official Allowance Notice is in order. Such favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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